

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 17712 181109Z

44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 AS-01 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 CEQ-01 EPA-04

OES-05 LAB-04 SIL-01 /097 W
----- 058220

R 181057Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6627

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS LONDON 17712

WASHDC, BRUSSELS PASS FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SENV, UK

SUBJ: CIVAIR - CONCORDE EIS

REF: PARIS 29721 R141603Z NOV 75

1. NATIONAL PRESS STRIKE ON NOV 14 FOLLOWED BY LIMITED REPORTING IN MEDIA OVER THE WEEKEND BEARS OUT REFTEL OBSERVATION OF UK PHLEGMATIC ACCEPTANCE OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN CONCMRDE EIS SAGA. TV AND RADIO REPORTS HAVE BEEN FACTUAL AND LOW KEY.

2. THE SUNDAY TIMES HEADED ITS ARTICLE "CONCORDE PASSES PAIN THRESHOLD". THE BULK OF THE STORY HAD TO DO WITH EXPLAINING DISCREPANCIES IN THE FIGURES GIVEN IN VARIOUS NOISE TESTS AT HEATHROW AS BEING TRACEABLE TO THE USE OF DIFFERENT LOCATIONS FOR THE VARIOUS NOISE MONITORS EMPLOYED. ONE SET OF READINGS TAKEN BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AIRCRAFT NOISE COUNCIL, WHICH REPRESENTS 52 LOCAL COUNCILS AFFECTED BY HEATHROW NOISE, SHOWED THAT AT ITS WORST, CONCORDE WAS SEVEN TIMES LOUDER THAN THE LEGAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 17712 181109Z

LIMIT AT HEATHROW AND PASSED THE THRESHOLD OF PAIN. IN

GENERAL THE COUNCIL CLAIMS CONCORDE IS THREE TIMES NOISIE ON TAKEOFF THAN THE BOEING 707. THE ARTICLE GOES ON TO ASSERT THAT CONCORDE STILL HAS SOME POWERFUL FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON. IT SAYS THAT PRESIDENT FORD FAVORS GIVING CONCORDE LANDING RIGHTS AT DULLES AND JFK AIRPORTS. IT CONTINUES BY STATING THERE IS A STRONG FEELING IN THE WHITE HOUSE, REINFORCED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PLEADINGS, THAT THE U.S. SHOULD NOT ASSUME THE BLAME FOR BURYING THE CMNCORDE PROJECT. THE WHITE HOUSE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "IT S SURVIVAL SHOULD BE DETERMINED BY IT'S SUCCESS OR FAILURE, NOT BY AN ARBITRARY DECISION OF THE U.S." THE DECISION OF SECRETARY COLEMAN TO HOLD HEARINGS ON THE EIS IS SEEN TO MAKE IT UNLIKELY THAT CONCORDE OPPONENTS COULD USE PURELY PROCEDURAL GROUNDS TO CHALLENGE THE PLANE. IN ADDITION, A CONGRESSIONAL AMENDMENT TACKED ON TO A BILL PROVIDING FUNDS FOR AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION, WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT THE LANDING OF ALL SUPERSONIC AIPCRAFT IN THE U.S. IS NOW LIKELY TO BE DEFEATED. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDED WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT THE LATEST EIS CONTAINS NOISE MEASUREMENTS WHICH ARE MUCH LESS FAVORABLE TO THE PLANE THAN THE DRAFT STATEMENT PRODUCED LAST SPRING. THIS IS SEEN TO STRENGTHEN THE RESOLVE OF THE ANTI-CONCORDE GROUPS IN THEIR FIGHT TO PREVENT THE SST FROM ENTERING THE U.S.

3. THE SUNDAY OBSERVER, WHICH LONG AGO ADOPTED AN ANTI-CONCORDE STANCE, MAKES USE OF THE HIGHER NOISE READINGS TO CONCLUDE THAT AT BEST THERE WILL BE ONLY A SEVERELY RESTRICTED SERVICE TO WASHINGTON ALLOWED WITH LITTLE HOPE FOR NEW YORK ENTRY. THIS OUTLOOK COUPLED WITH THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH LANDING RIGHTS AND OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES ON OTHER ROUTES CAUSES THE OBSERVER TO MAKE A PLEA FOR BRITAIN TO FACE FACTS AND REACH A DECISION ON CONCORDE. THE NEWSPAPER PURPOSES THAT THE UKG FIX A LIMIT ON BRITISH AIRWAYS OPERATING LOSSES RESULTING FROM CONCORDE, AND, IN ADDITION, HALT ALL WORK ON THE TWO REMAINING CONCORDES BEING BUILT BY BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION AT BRISTOL.

RICHARDSON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 17712 181109Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CIVIL AVIATION, LANDING RIGHTS, NOISE POLLUTION, CONCORDE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON17712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750401-0312
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751133/aaaabddl.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 29721
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 SEP 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - CONCORDE EIS
TAGS: EAIR, SENV, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006